

# NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture  
U.S. Forest Service  
Coconino National Forest

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## For Immediate Release

May 20, 2014

## Public Affairs Contact:

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### Slide Fire: 7:30 p.m. update (final for this evening)

**Flagstaff, Ariz. –** The Slide Fire, reported just before 4 p.m. today, is located in Oak Creek Canyon just north of Slide Rock State Park and burning north up the canyon.

**Size:** Approximately 400-450 acres

**Containment:** 0%

**Location:** Originated just north of Slide Rock State Park, approximately 4 to 5 miles north of Sedona.

**Date Reported:** Tuesday, May 20 at approximately 4 p.m.

**Cause:** Human caused, under investigation

**Current Resources:** Approximately 100 personnel including two hotshot crews, two helicopters, one air attack, four engines, two water tenders, Sedona Fire and a fuels crew.

**Ordered Resources:** Four additional hotshot crews, three helicopters and additional overhead personnel are expected to arrive tomorrow.

**Closures:** Highway 89A from Sedona to Fort Tuthill in Flagstaff.

**Evacuations:** An approximate 2-mile stretch of area from Slide Rock State Park north toward Junipine has been evacuated, as well as the East Pocket Forest Service Lookout Tower. Evacuees are being relocated to Sinagua Middle School in Flagstaff.

**Structures Threatened:** Approximately 100 structures are currently threatened north of Slide Rock State Park, which include private homes as well vacation resort cabins and a Forest Service Lookout tower.

Fire activity is slowing toward the north and now concentrating on moving up the steep canyon walls. Resources are stationed above and below the fire. Smoke is heavy through Oak Creek Canyon and also visible from the Flagstaff area and will drift to the north; expect smoke to be noticeable along I-17 and in Flagstaff. No injuries to report.

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NOTE TO THE MEDIA: A staging area for media is located at Rim Camp, which is near the lookout above the switchbacks above Oak Creek Canyon at Milepost 391. The Department of Public Safety has a roadblock located at Forest Highlands (Milepost 397) on Highway 89A, but will allow members of the media to move forward to Rim Camp. Point of Contact at Rim Camp for members of the media is Bill Morse at 928-699-4497.